

**REMARKS**

Claims 175-225 are pending, of which claims 175, 192 and 209 are in independent form.

No amendments have been made to the claims.

Favorable reconsideration of the present patent application as currently constituted is respectfully requested.

**Regarding the Amendments to the Specification**

Applicant has added two new paragraphs to the specification as first and second paragraphs with respect to claim of priority to foreign patent applications and domestic patent applications, respectively, in order to reclaim and reinstate the priority claims Applicant is believed to be entitled to.

**Regarding the Priority Claims**

Applicant appreciates the phone conference with the Examiner on May 1, 2007 regarding the pending Request for Information ("Request"). Applicant is grateful for the Examiner's comments relative to the apparent relinquishment of Applicant's priority claims with respect to the present patent application. As pointed out during the phone conference, it appears that a paper was filed by Applicant's prior counsel on September 16, 2005 ("Relinquishment

Paper") which sought to relinquish "all priority claims for the instant application, including the priority claim to International Patent Application No. PCT/CA/00/01108." Responsive to the Examiner's comments, Applicant hereby rescinds and retracts the Relinquishment Paper and reclaims all previously claimed priority claims for the benefit of the pending patent application and respectfully requests that such priority claims be restored without prejudice or limitation.

**Regarding the Request for Information**

Applicant further appreciates the Examiner's comments on May 1, 2007 regarding the scope of the Request which provided that:

In response to this requirement, please provide copies of the following:

- A) Marked up copies of each specification in the chain of continuation-in-part applications Applicant claims priority to.

As originally claimed, the present patent application is a CIP of Application No. 09/401,868 (Attorney Docket No. 1400-1072P; Client No. 10072-US-CIP) which is a CIP of Application No. 09/087,623 (Attorney Docket No. 1400-1072US; Client No. 10072-US-

PAT). Responsive to the Examiner's comments, Applicant has endeavored to compare what is believed to be the source file of the present patent application with each of the source files of Application No. 09/401,868 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,701,378) and Application No. 09/087,623 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,219,694), respectively, using the Document Compare functionality of Microsoft® WORD®. The redlined documents corresponding to these two comparisons are attached herewith as Appendix A (comparison between the present patent application and Application No. 09/401,868) and Appendix B (comparison between the present patent application and Application No. 09/087,623). Because of what appears to be wholesale deletions and/or additions at some places in the Detailed Description as well as in the claims of the respective patent application documents, the redlined versions show large blocks of text as either underlined (i.e., presumably indicative of added matter) or with strikethrough (i.e., presumably indicative of deleted matter). It is believed, accordingly, that the marked-up documents attached herewith comport with the requirements of the pending Request for Information.

PATENT APPLICATION  
Attorney Docket No.: 1400-1072P6  
Client No.: 10072-US-CIP6

**Fee Statement**

Compared to the highest number previously paid for, the total number of claims and the number of independent claims have not increased. Applicant is filling herewith a Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time. Form PTO-2038 is enclosed herewith authorizing payment of \$1,020.00 for the three-month extension of time. Applicant believes no additional fees are due for the filing of this response. If any additional fees are due or any overpayments have been made, however, please charge or credit our deposit account (Deposit Account No. 03-1130).

**SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION**

In view of the above remarks and attached Appendices, it is believed that the present response is fully responsive. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the prosecution of the present patent application be advanced as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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